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June 6, 2006

BENJAMIN P. MUSTIAN

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Charles L.A. Terreni Chief Clerk/Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Application of Carolina Water Service, Inc. for adjustment of rates and charges for the provision of water and sewer service; Docket 2006-92-WS

Dear Mr. Terreni:

I am writing to you in your capacity as hearing officer in the above-referenced docket. The purpose of this letter is to state, in advance of the scheduled night hearings in this case (the first of which is on Thursday, June 8, 2006), the Applicant's objection to the Commission's receipt of any customer testimony consisting of unsubstantiated complaints regarding customer service, quality of service, or customer relations issues.

The basis for this objection is that the receipt and reliance upon such testimony would deny the Applicant due process of law, permit customers to circumvent complaint procedures established under law and Commission regulation for the determination of such matters, and is an inappropriate basis for the determination of just and reasonable rates. In support of this objection, the Applicant cites *Patton v. Public Service Commission*, 280 S.C. 288, 312 S.E.2d 257 (1984), the order of the Court of Common Pleas in *Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. v. S.C. P.S.C.*, C/A No. 97-CP-40-0923, September 25, 1998, and the Commission's Order No. 1999-191, Docket No. 96-137-WS, dated March 16, 1999.

I would respectfully request that this objection be noted in the record of this case by you in advance such that contemporaneous and repeated objections by counsel for the Applicant will not be required at the start of each night hearing. Based upon the Commission's prior practice, the Applicant does not expect that this objection would be ruled on at or prior to the night hearing. The Applicant understands that the only other party of record, the Office of Regulatory

^{*}ALSO ADMITTED IN TX
**ALSO ADMITTED IN VA

Staff ("ORS"), has the right to state a position on this objection and I am making its counsel aware of same by copy of this letter.

If you have any questions, or require additional information to consider this request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully

WILLOUGHBY & HOEFER, P.A.

John M.S. Hoefer

JMSH/twb Enclosure

cc: C. Lessie Hammonds, Esquire